

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., May 19, 1832, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Washington, May 19, 1832.

Dear Andrew, I have just recd. your letters of the 1st and 6th of may with those from Sarah inclosed. I am relieved from the great anxiety I had about your safety and health, as about that time many steam Boat accidents had taken place. as you are now at home with your D'r Sarah and Emma in good health I hope you will be all happy, and spend your time pleasantly. Write me often for as yet, I cannot say whether it will be in my power to visit you at the Hermitage this summer. I cannot see when congress will adjourn. Write me the situation of Sarah and if I cannot go home I will meet her at Guiendot in due time to bring her to this place before she becomes too clumsey to travel. Emily presented major Donelson last night with a fine son. Sarah I hope in due season may present you with a fine daughter—if so, I will claim to name it *Rachel*.¹

¹ Writing to his son on May 27, 1832, Jackson said: "The jewelry of your dear mother is under your care. Present to Sarah, with my affectionate regard, the pearl necklace, ear rings, etc." The letter is the property of Mr. Henry F. Du Puy, of Easton, Md.

I have been mortified with the course pursued with the colts. Steel well knew that I was opposed to have any horses trained on my farm, or track in my plantation Stockly Donelson was to have furnished *one*, you and Andrew has Alexander employed at \$425 pr month—engagement was made on the colts, Alexander sent on, Stockly refuses to have any thing to do in the concern—a tract at your request opened on the farm, the

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colts trained, trial made, the colts started agreeable to instructions sent after, and brought back, fearful that it might injure my character, but returned, and my farm made a training stable of, the very way to injure me, and Stockly, agrees to pay half the expences—all the expence of Alexander from the time he left here, half the expence whilst in Tennessee and returning here with half the expence of stables and Lotts engaged for them by major Donelson. no my son Stockly only means the pittance whilst there. no my son, your engagements with major Donelson you must comply with and Alexanders wages must be paid until he returns, therefore the colts must be sent on here, or a training stable procured some where else than on our farm and major Donelson exonerated by you and Stockly paying all expence that has and will accrue by detaining Alexander. This I am sure Stockly will not do. Therefore the colts I hope before this reaches you have been sent on. indeed I had a hope that the moment you got home you would have started them.

Hutchings and Steel both well knew that the colts were to be sent on, and that my plantation was only thro' necessity made a training ground. I am constrained to believe that there was some intention in their being turned back more to benefit others than you and major Donelson and for this act I blame Mr Steel, and I have lost all confidence in him. have the virginia filly by Stockholder and her colt by Bolivar well taken care of and fed well upon oats corn and grass, as well as the sway backs, and the oscar fillys These young colt are valuable, and altho the oscar filleys colt by citizen does not look well at present—it has the blood. feed the mare well, and I have no fear but it will come out. The citizen is now the best blooded horse in your country, and unless my mares can be sent to the Stockholder, the oscar filly particularly, I wish them put to citizen—but as to this, do as you please, and send the virginia filly to crusader. Still I think citizen the best blooded horse, and this year it may be as well to put him to all the mares.

I wish you to have the House finished and the monument in the garden spedily. See mr morrison, and have a fair settlement with him and with Steel—the House and monument I hope will be finished before I reach there in july—on the monument being finished, say to Mr Josiah Nichol to pay morrison the ballance of the thousand dollars yet unpaid, but not

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until the work is finished—my memorandum as to all other matters will govern you. The deficiency of Pork you must make up—middlings for the negroes are the best.

I must close for the present—my letters will give you my wishes and your discretion must supply the rest. I inclose you a letter from your friend McCauley. I have recd the present and will attend to his request of the pictures. If you write him inclose the letter to me and I will have it forwarded to him. deliver the inclosed to Sarah, present my affectionate regards to Emma, to Thomas and all my connections and good neighbours and believe me your affectionate father